The General

Pardon, geuen longe agone, and sythe newly confyrmed, by our Almightie Father, with many large Priuileges, Graunt es, and Bulles graunted for euer, As it is to be seen hereafter:

Drawne out of Frenche, into English.

By VVyllyam Hayvvard.

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326.99

The General Pardon.

Alpha & omega Primus & Nouissimus Pontifex Maximus. Esa.41.b. 44 b. Apo 1.b. 22.g.

IESVS, our onely deare, and welbeloued Sonne by our e- uerlastinge and heauenly wil, Emperour of ỹ heauens, Kynge of all the Earthe, Prince of the Seas, Lorde and gouernour of Hell, and all infernall and deepe Esa.89.b Mat. 28.b Apo.19.c. Phil.2.b.

places, and generally of all the whole worlde: seeyng and perceuyng, the noinber of his people and subiectes to decrease day by day, by & through the continual Warres, that he heretofore hath had (& at this present still hath) 2.ti.4.3.c. 2.pe.2. Iude.1. as well against the Turkes, Painims, and misbaunt Iewes, as also against the peruers Papists vnfaithfull Idolators, & forgers of sundry sectes (as Anabaptists Arians and Libertines) with al the rest of the rotten rable of his moste greatest enemies, bothe to his Crowne & Law: He consideryng his estate thus more & more to decay, if spedy and conuenient remedie were not had on his behalfe, after that he had shewed forthwith vnto vs, this his busy affayres: required vs here vpon to giue and graunt, a greate and vniuersall, generall, full, and free

Pardon

Pardon and remission, to al such persons, of what age, state, or condition so euer they be, that will enroule, & enter them selues into his bande, to serue him, to cast forth of his landes and Territories, all suche kinde of people as resist his lawes and Decrees, as wel to conuince al such by the most sharpe and cutty swoorde of liuely and forcible woorde: as also (if neede requier) by the helpe of our seculer arme and Minister, our deputed liuetenant, I mean the Magistrate. Wee therefore consyderyng these thinges, and wholy desyringe in our mindes, the whole and entire augmentation, and enlargement of the Realmes of our dere & wel beloued sonne Iesus, and also to continew and holde sith the mutuall amite that was begon between vs, before the beginnyng of the

Heb.4.c. Eph.6.9.

Rom.13.a 1.Pet.2.c

worlde. And also more and more to encrease and further the same. Haue opned all the tresury of our heuenly Palace, to the furniture and setting forward of the same. Geuyng, ordaynyng, & suffering this our publike Pardon to be knowen to euery estate, and commaunde by these presentes, to preache and publishe the same through al the world, according to the Bull, by vs geuen hereafter folowyng.

Alpha & Omega. Esay. 14. b. 44 b. Apoca. 1. b. 22. c.

¶ The fyrst and the last of this name to all faythfull Christians, healthy and heauenly benediction. Amen.

WEe, knowing many great & hainous misorders and abuses to haue been doone, and yet dayly be done, in the Territories Landes

Landes and Lordeships of our welbeloued sonne Jesus: Infidels, Idolatours, and peruers sects of perdition, vnder the shadow and sygne of Religion and holynesse, to the greate breche of his holy lawes and statutes, beside the infinite losse and ruine of his vasales and subiectes, of our great power and auctoritee, and force, permit to the same (as well in his owne Realms, as generally through the whole worlde) to cause to crie, and Proclamation to be made, to publiche to euery one this great and generall Bull and Pardon, by force of these presentes, whereto wee wil that no lesse faith therto be ioigned, then such as is alowed by vs from the beginning. Pat.3.d. 2.pet.1.d. 2.pet.2.a.

Commaundynge further, on payne of Excommunication, and euerlastynge curse, all Preachers

Deu.11.b to whom our letters shal be offered: to reade the same, and openlie to publishe and Preache our Decree amonge all people, and euery nation. Also to specifie to
Mar.11.d. the heaters, ỹ great Priuileges, pardons and Indulgences, that wee haue graunted for euer, to all suche as shall employ their labours to conuert others & them selues to be apte baskicles of the same right dere and welbeloued
Mat.18.c. Sonne Jesus, of whiche Priue-
Mark.1.b ledges, benefites, and Pardons the true tenour followeth.

¶ Libertie to Reade the holy Bible in euery Language.

FIrst, all & euery person, what estate soeuer he be, which shall or will enrowle them, or be of the bande of our beloued sonne, shall and may lawfully haue in their hou-

houses, cary abrode with them, reade priuately or publikely, by day, by night, and at all times, a booke called the Byble, conteyning the Olde and New Testament. And to haue the same as well in Frenche, Italian, Spanish, Hiealmayn, Duch, and English, as so in euery other tongue, as well as in the Hebrue, Greke, or Latin. So that it shall be fitte for euery nation to haue the same in his vulgar tongue, or in any other language, whiche he best vnderstandes, or wherein he hath most pleasure. All and euery fonde and abused, forbidding to haue, or reade the same, heretofore notwithstanding. For the forbiddynge to reade, to haue or to keepe the same Booke in any vulgar language, was doone by the diuelish deuise of diuers destroyers, by the perswasion of hay-

Iosu. 1. b. 2. Esd. 3. d

1. Cor. 14.

haynous Hypocrites, subtil seducers, idel Idolaters, and peruers Papistes (as if wee should once haue willed onely to haue had our lawes red, and defended, & forbiden, to marke, or vnderstand the same) and therfore to signifie further, wee geue full & free Pardon of all syns remited or not remitted for seing that al such read not the holy booke in vayne, but that they rule their life & gouern themselues & theirs to the vttermost of their powers, accordyng to the rules, & auctorites compriseld in this saide booke, without bending either to the right hand or ỹ leaft: Casting apart all mens tradicions (touching the rule of soules) yea what aparans of holynes soeuer they haue, as well by doing of mirackels, as other wise, for wee do vtterly abhorre all the same: yet although our most

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